

MINUTES
OF THE
SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
MISSISSIPPI ARTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT
Mount Zion Church, Franklin County, Mississippi,
October 9th, 10th and 11th, A. D. 1873

OFFICERS:

S. BUFFKIN, Moderator.
H. H. RATLIFF, Clerk.
DR. J. H. SAMPLE, Treasurer.

MADE BY
NATHANIEL
DEMOCRAT AND COMMERCE PRINT.
1873.

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MINUTES:

MOUNT ZION CHURCH, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISS., }
Wednesday, October 9th, 1873. }

Pursuant to adjournment, the Mississippi Baptist Association met this day, with the Mount Zion Baptist Church, of Franklin county.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder James Newman, from Romans, sixth chapter and eleventh verse, after which, on motion, the Association adjourned to dinner.

At half past one o'clock the Association met, and prayer being offered by Elder E. C. Eager, the Moderator, W. W. Bolls, being present, and presiding, appointed Dr. J. R. Sample and B. Pendleton reading clerks.

Letters from the different churches called for, read, and the names of delegates enrolled.

Brothers J. R. Sample and B. Pendleton were appointed tellers for the election of officers of this Association.

The Association proceeded to elect by ballot a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, which resulted in the choice of S. Buffkin, Moderator; H. H. Ratcliff, Clerk, and J. R. Sample, Treasurer.

The Association thus organized was declared ready for the transaction of business, when, on motion, Elder C. H. Otkin was recognized as delegate from Summit Baptist Church, and invited to participate in the privileges of the Association.

On motion Bros. D. B. Cain, H. S. Anderson and Wm. F. Cain were appointed a committee on preaching.

On motion, Elder Jas. Nelson was received as Messenger from Mississippi Baptist State Convention, and as Corresponding Secretary of the Ministerial Educational Board of the State of Mississippi.

The Committee on Preaching presented a report, which, being unsatisfactory, they were requested to reconsider the same, whereupon Elder G. A. Hayden was recommended to preach at 10 o'clock, a. m. instead of C. H. Otkin.

The report as thus amended was, on motion, adopted.

On motion, Bros. Wm. L. Jenkins, W. Z. Lea and J. Morris were appointed on Finance Committee.

On motion, Elder C. H. Otkin, Wm. McNulty and B. Pendleton were appointed Committee on Extracts.

Brothers Geo. F. Webb and W. Z. Lea, were on motion appointed on Nominating Committee.

On motion, Brothers H. Quin, Wm. F. Cain, and Stephen Jackson were appointed Committee on Obituaries.

Elders C. M. Gordon, Chas. H. Otkin and Jas. Nelson were, agreeable to motion, appointed on Committee on Ministerial Education.

On motion, Bros. Pendleton and Buckles were appointed Committee on Ministerial Support.

On motion to appoint Committee on Order of Business, Brothers R. Rhodes, T. J. Scott and S. H. Thompson were elected.

Elder E. C. Eager having presented himself as messenger from General Association, and as agent representing the educational interest of south Mississippi and east Louisiana, was on motion received and invited to a seat in this body.

On motion, S. S. Elder Relyea was received as messenger from East Louisiana Association.

Elders S. A. Hayden, O. L. Johnson were, on motion received as correspondents from Mississippi River Association.

Letter from Boguechitto Association being presented and read, was, on motion received and messenger invited to a seat in this body,

Brothers S. S. Relyea, E. C. Eager, L. Scofield, W. W. Bolls and Moses Jackson, were, on motion, received as delegates from General Association and invited to participate in the privileges of this body.

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Brothers Wm. F. Cain, Wm. McNulty, and Elder Jas. Newman were, agreeable to motion, appointed messengers to correspond with Boguechitto Association.

Elder Jas. Newman and Brother Wm. F. Cain were, on motion, appointed messengers to correspond with Pearl River Association.

Elder L. Scofield and Bro. R. Smith were, on motion, appointed messengers to correspond with East Louisiana Association.

On motion to send delegates to Union Association, Brothers Wm. McNulty, Elbert Seal and J. M. Morris were appointed, and on motion Elder S. Buffkin was added to said list.

On motion, this Association ~~decided to open~~ correspondence with Fair River Association, whereupon Elder Jas. Newman and Brother J. E. Byrd were appointed delegates.

Delegates to Strong River Association, were on motion appointed, consisting of Elders C. M. Gordon, Chas. H. Otkin, W. W. Bolls and Brother W. Z. Lea. On motion, Elder S. Buffkin was added to this delegation.

On motion, a general letter of correspondence to the different associations, for publication in the minutes of this Association, was ordered to be prepared by a committee consisting of Brethren C. M. Gordon, Chas. H. Otkin and Geo. F. Webb.

Elders L. Scofield, Jas. Newman, and Brothers H. Quin, S. H. Thompson, Wm. McNulty, Wm. L. Jenkins, Wm. F. Cain, R. Rhodes, Jos. E. Lea, Wm. P. Anderson, H. S. Anderson, S. S. Faust and Reuben Smith were, agreeable to motion, appointed Delegates to the General Association.

On motion, it was agreed to appoint a visiting committee to attend the commencement exercises at Clinton College, Miss.; whereupon Brothers C. M. Gordon, C. H. Otkin, W. W. Bolls, Buckles and Barclay were appointed.

On motion, Elder S. Buffkin was added to said committee.

On motion, the Association adjourned to 9 o'clock Thursday morning.

S. BUFFKIN, Moderator.

H. H. RATCLIFF, Clerk.

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Time

THURSDAY MORNING, Oct. 10, 1873.

The Association convened, and prayer being offered by Elder L. Scofield, the Moderator announced the session prepared for business.

On motion, the report of Committee on Order of Business being presented and read, was adopted.

On motion, the Clerk was authorized to make such changes in the minutes as would not affect the sense or meaning of the same, with a view to condensation.

On motion, order of business was suspended to appoint Committee on Queries; whereupon Brothers A. J. Everett, J. R. Sample and W. Z. Lea were appointed.

Committee on Obituaries presented their report, which, not being satisfactory, was referred back for reconsideration.

Committee on Nominations offered a report, which, not being approved, was returned for further consideration.

Executive Board of Mississippi Baptist Association presented their report, which, being read and submitted, a resolution was offered as an amendment for the "recommendation" contained in said report.

On motion the Association adjourned to hear Elder S. A. Hayden preach, who entertained the congregation by an interesting sermon from 1st Epistle of John, 4th ch., 19th verse.

—o— EVENING SESSION.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Association met, and the Moderator being sick, Elder L. Scofield called the meeting to order, and, prayer being offered, Elder L. Scofield was, on motion, invited to preside as Moderator *pro tem*; whereupon the Association was declared ready for the transaction of business.

Consideration of report of the Executive Board of Mississippi Baptist Association resumed.

Pending discussion of resolution of amendment, a motion by Elder C. M. Gordon to limit speeches to five minutes, was ruled out of order, and on appeal to the house the Moderator was sustained.

On motion by Elder C. M. Gordon, to substitute the word "instruct" for the word "recommend," in resolution of amend-

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ment, Brother Sylvester Garduer moved to lay on the table the resolution of amendment and the amendment thereto, which was carried.

Report on Extracts was presented, and on motion adopted.

Report on Ministerial Education presented, and adopted agreeable to motion.

Committee on preaching reported Elder W. W. Bolls for that duty, at 11 o'clock Friday morning.

On motion Association adjourned to 9 o'clock Friday morning.

L. SCOFIELD, Moderator.

H. H. RATCLIFF, Clerk.

9 O'CLOCK FRIDAY MORNING,

October 11th, 1873.

The Association convened, and being called to order by the Moderator *pro tem.*, prayer was offered by Elder Robert Percer. Minutes read, and on motion were corrected and adopted.

Brother R. H. Percer was, on motion, received as corresponding messenger from Union Association, and invited to a seat in this body.

Report of Committee on Queries presented, and on motion was adopted.

Report on obituaries presented, and on motion was adopted.

Report on Nominations presented, and on motion adopted.

Report of Elder C. M. Gordon, as Pastor of Wall Street Baptist Church, Natchez, presented and on motion was adopted.

Report of Treasurer of Mississippi Baptist Association presented, and on motion was adopted.

On motion, order of business was suspended to hear from the mission field of Brother Robert Percer.

Report on Finance presented, and on motion being amended, was adopted.

Report of Committee to prepare Letter of Correspondence to different associations, presented and on motion was adopted.

On motion order of business suspended to hear Brother Percer on subject of special mission from Port Gibson. Sum collected for building church, \$15.

On motion, Association adjourned to 2 o'clock p. m.

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EVENING SESSION.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Moderator *pro tem.* being absent the Association was called to order by Brother Geo. F. Webb, when prayer was offered by brother S. H. Thompson.

On motion Bro. Geo. F. Webb was chosen to preside over the deliberations of this body in the absence of the Moderator *pro tem.*

Resolution to appoint committee to draft biographical sketch of Elder Zachariah Reeves, presented, and on motion adopted, committee to report at the next meeting of this body. Elder Chas. H. Otkin, Chairman.

Resolution to appoint committee to answer query No. 1, printed in minutes of last Association, offered, and on motion adopted.

QUERY No. 1.

"Is it not the duty of a Baptist Church to require of those whom she receives into her fellowship, a knowledge of an acquiescence in our Articles of Faith?"

Committee—Elders Newman, Relyea, and C. M. Gordon, to report at next meeting of this body.

On motion, order of business was suspended to hear remarks of Brother Relyea, on the subject of raising funds for payment of publication of tract on Baptism, by Dr. J. R. Sample.—Amount raised, \$50.

Resolution changing time of meeting of this body offered and on motion adopted.

On motion, it was agreed to select a place for next meeting of Mississippi Baptist Association, by acclamation.

On motion, it was decided that the Mississippi Baptist Association hold its next annual meeting with East Fork Church, in Amite county, on Saturday before the second Lord's Day in October, 1874.

Resolution thanking the officers of this Association for the faithful and efficient discharge of their duties, offered, and on motion adopted.

Resolution of thanks to the citizens and Brethren around Mount Zion Church for kindness and hospitality during the session of this body, offered, and on motion adopted.

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On motion, it was ordered that the Clerk have the usual number of copies of minutes published, and at whatever publishing house it could be done cheapest, and for which he be allowed the sum of twenty-five dollars.

On motion, order of business was suspended to hear remarks from Bro. Chas. H. Otkin, on subject of "kind words."

Resolution cordially recommending the importance of the use and better circulation of "Kind Words," to the Sabbath Schools of the different churches of this Association, offered, and on motion adopted.

On motion, Association adjourned to meet at East Fork Baptist Church, Amite county, on Saturday before second Lord's Day in October, 1874.

GEO. H. WEBB, Moderator.

H. H. RATCLIFF, Clerk.

Appendices.

APPENDIX I.

Your Committee on Order of Business respectfully submit as follows:

- 1st. Roll call.
- 2d. Read minutes of preceding day.
- 3d. Read rules of decorum and powers of the Association.
- 4th. Call for reports.
- 5th. Call for extracts of church letters.
- 6th. Call for corresponding letters.
- 7th. Call for motions and resolutions.
- 8th. Call for appointments.
- 9th. Election of minister to preach next introductory sermon.
- 10th. Selecting place for holding next Association.
- 11th. Adjournment.

APPENDIX II.

Your Committee on Obituaries beg leave to report that it is their painful duty to record the deaths of Brothers James W. Felder, and Wharton and Samuels, and Sisters Sarah Avery, N. T. Hoffman, Luck, and Sarah Witherspoon, Mrs. Sarah Brown. Also Sister Arnold, of Friendship Church, Franklin county.

Brother Wharton departed this life since our last annual meeting, in the seventieth year of his age. In the avocations

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and pursuits of life, and in his relations with his fellow-men, he was in the strictest sense an upright and honest man, and good citizen. As a Christian, he sought to discharge his duty with fidelity. Though resting from his labors, his memory still lives in our hearts. We tender to his bereaved family our sincere sympathy.

Brother James W. Felder, of East Fork Church, died during the past associational year. He occupied a prominent position in our denomination, and was a useful citizen in Church and State. His afflictions were long and trying, but he bore them with a submissive spirit, and we believe he died in the full triumph of a living faith in his blessed Lord and Master.

It is also with feelings of deep sorrow that this Association has been informed of the death of our beloved Brother, Chas. H. Gammill, who departed this life since your last meeting. Our deceased Brother was a native of Mississippi. He professed religion and was baptized into the fellowship of Mount Zion Church in 1866. As he proved himself a faithful soldier in the late struggle for Southern independence, so likewise he was equally as faithful a soldier of the cross. He was a devoted member of the church, and much esteemed by his brethren.

Brother John W. Oliver, an old member of Friendship Church, in Lincoln county, Miss., was also a man of great christian worth, and an exemplary citizen. He was Deacon for many years, of his church, and died about the sixty-third year of his age.

Also our beloved sister, Mrs. Sarah Avery, of New Providence Church, and sisters Sarah Brown, Clarissa Lusk, Sarah Witherspoon, of Galilee Church, and sister Arnold, of Friendship Church, Lincoln county. These sisters were consistent members of their respective churches for many years, ever ready and willing by deeds of charity to minister to the wants of the needy and suffering, they have engraven their memory deep in the hearts of their friends. While we mourn our loss we feel that it is their eternal gain. Sisters Avery, Lusk and Witherspoon were each near seventy-five years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. F. CAIN,
H. G. QUIN,
STEPHEN JACKSON,

Manuscript note:
sent to Assoc. for information and record
and returned to the
Association 1881 for the same

APPENDIX III.

Your Committee on Nominations would submit the following report:

For introductory sermon next year, Chas. H. Otkin; alternate, C. M. Gordon.

Missionary sermon, W. W. Bolls.

Missionary Board, Ira A. Jenkins, J. R. Sample, R. T. Rice and Geo. T. Lumpkin.

Respectfully signed,

GEO. F. WEBB, } Com'te.
W. Z. LEA. }

APPENDIX IV.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board of the Mississippi Baptist Association beg leave to submit the following report:

In the absence of specific instructions from the Association, the Board has acted during the past associational year in accordance with the course pursued by the Board of the preceding year, with but a single exception.

Immediately on the adjournment of the Association, the Board met, and on urgent solicitation appropriated two hundred dollars to assist the Natchez Church in the support of its Pastor. This act was considered to be clearly in accordance with the implied understanding when the money was collected.

The Board is sorry to learn that the legitimacy of their action has been questioned, but trust their brethren will bear in mind that they were left entirely without instructions, and hence could only act with reference to their best judgment as to the wishes of the Association. The wisdom of the appropriation, it is believed will be fully vindicated by the report of the Natchez Church to the Association.

The balance of the subscription for missions, together with the work of missions in the Association, was transferred to the Board of the General Association, to be conducted under the advice and with the concurring judgment of this Board. The Board are happy to state that the Board of the General Association have fully carried out their wishes, and that they are gratified with the results. This course was in accordance with what the Board understood to be the wish of the Association.

General Association of South Miss.
and East Louisiana.
Nov 1st of 1891 minute.

As a difference of opinion has existed on this subject, the Board beg leave, in justice to themselves, to state the reasons for the course pursued.

It will be remembered that before the organization of the General Association, the churches of this Association were duly consulted, and with great unanimity instructed their delegates to make arrangements for its organization. In accordance with what was considered to be a general understanding, the Executive Board of this Association, in common with the Boards of the other Associations, turned over the management of the missionary work to the Board of the General Association, and at the same time took its position as an advisory body for the work in its respective district. With the wisdom of this course this Board has nothing to do. They had only to do with the fact that the preceding Board had pursued the same course. As the Association had not expressed the least dissent from this course, and as it had given no contrary instructions, this Board felt bound to pursue the course already established. To have acted otherwise, under the circumstances, might have subjected them to severe censure. It is hoped that this simple statement of the facts in the case will satisfy all parties as to the motives of the Board, and also of their fidelity to the best judgment they could form of the wishes of the Association. At an early meeting of the Board it was concluded to ask the Association to issue specific instructions, in order to prevent future embarrassment. In addition to which the Board now deems it its duty to advise the Association to adopt the course usually pursued by District Associations in their relations to the General Associations and State Conventions. That is, to instruct its local Board to conduct missionary work separately and by itself, simply reporting the amount of work performed to the General Association, for the purpose of a tabular statement of missionary operations; and leaving the General Association to do also what it can for the promotion of the same objects in our own and other parts of its territory. It is believed that this plan will be no violation of the original instructions of the churches, and that it will have a tendency to harmonize all feelings, and to open the way for that freedom and concert of action which is essential to the greatest efficiency in our missionary work. The Board is more confident in

this recommendation since they have learned that the Pearl River Association has already taken action looking to a hearty co-operation in the objects of the General Association, having unanimously invited the Corresponding Secretary to visit all their churches during the next year, and also appointed a full corps of messengers to attend the next annual meeting, at Osyka. It is also confidently expected that other Associations will adopt the same measures. Under these circumstances the field of the General Association is likely to become so large as to render it quite necessary, in any event, for the District Associations to adopt, all of them, the plan now recommended. The Board is sincerely desirous that a perfect understanding and a hearty co-operation may be effected, not only in our own Association, but in all south Mississippi and east Louisiana; and that all the interests of Christ's kingdom, and of the Baptist cause in general, in this long neglected but most important field, may be fully developed, and prosper under the blessings of the Great Head of the Church.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

M. JACKSON, Chairman.

APPENDIX V.

Your committee would present the following report on abstracts:

NEW PROVIDENCE

has never failed to be represented in the Association; has had no protracted meeting; members manifest no interest in prayer meeting, and but little in the Sabbath School; complaints of spiritual coldness. Elder James Newman is pastor.

EBENEZER

has been without preaching during part of the year. Her interest in prayer meeting and Sabbath School languishes. Elder L. Scofield is pastor.

EAST FORK

has nothing special to communicate. She called to ordination during the year, Dr. T. J. Everett, and licensed Bro. H. G. Quin. Has a prosperous Sabbath School. Elder Jas. Newman is pastor.

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ZION HILL

has nothing of importance to mention. Has a Sabbath School in good condition. Elder James Newman is pastor.

GALILEE

has had a meeting continuing for days; results are good. Has also cause to mourn; death has been in their midst. Her Sabbath School is in its fourth year, and promises much good.—Prayer meeting is well attended. Elder S. Buffkin is pastor.

NEW HOPE

has been disorganized for years, but recently reorganized; has only five members; desires the prayers of God's people. Elder Samuel Morris is pastor.

RAMAH

has held no revival for twelve months; desires to be remembered by Christ's people at a throne of grace. Elder W. H. Bailey is pastor.

FRIENDSHIP

members manifest general interest in the Lord's cause; is in a good condition. Sends a query. Elder W. H. Bailey is pastor. ✓

NATCHEZ

is in a prosperous condition. The labors of Elder Gordon have been greatly blessed. He proposes to continue her work without cessation. Her Sabbath School is in a healthful and growing condition. She has licensed a young brother, and is supporting him in a Mississippi college. Elder C. M. Gordon is pastor.

SUMMIT

is in a healthful condition; has had some additions by baptism and letter; has a good Sabbath School; also a prayer meeting. Is at peace. Elder Chas. H. Otkin is pastor.

UNION

reports peace among her members; addition to her membership; death of Bro. Wharton. Their meeting house was destroyed by fire; had a prayer meeting and a good Sabbath School until the loss of their house; had twenty-one additions by baptism. Elder S. Buffkin is pastor.

ZAREPTA

had a good meeting; frequent additions by baptism; set apart to the ministry, by ordination, Bros. Rufus L. King and Samuel Morris. Has a good prayer meeting and a good Sabbath School. Elder L. Trivillian is pastor.

MOUNT ZION

is in a healthful condition; has had a good meeting; members conduct their District Sabbath School. Also a prayer meeting. Death has visited them. Elder S. Buffkin is pastor.

PERCY'S CREEK

reports peace among her members; has had a few additions by baptism; religious status of the community is improving; has a large Bible Class and a good Sabbath School. Elder W. W. Bolls is pastor.

FORT ADAMS

complains of a want of religious zeal; has had a meeting of days; a few were added to the church. Elder W. W. Bolls is pastor.

LIBERTY

reports a meeting of marked interest; has a Sabbath School. Elder L. Scofield is pastor.

HOPEWELL

is in a prosperous condition: has had some additions to her membership. Elder S. Buffkin is pastor.

DAMASCUS

has had a very good meeting; is in a good condition. Elder J. A. Snider is pastor.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. H. OTKIN. } Com'tee.
WM. M. McNULTY. }

APPENDIX VI.

Your Committee on Ministerial Education beg leave to report as follows:

Believing that those who are ambassadors of Christ should be cultivated men, as well as men of deep piety, in order to be able to instruct the people and to meet the various objections brought against Christianity; and believing this to be an age

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of progress, in which it is necessary, in order to make the cause of Christ acceptable, and to make it attractive by earnest, faithful and intelligent preaching, therefore,

Resolved, 1st, That we recommend to the churches to contribute of their means, monthly or yearly, for the education of those who are believed to be converted men and called to preach the Gospel.

Resolved, 2d, That the Mississippi Baptist Association be hereby urged especially to look after the education of the young ministers in her own bounds, as the territory to be occupied by the Secretary of the Educational Board is so large (embracing at this time Mississippi and Louisiana) that many young ministers will go uneducated unless there be a very hearty associational co-operation.

Respectfully submitted, C. M. GORDON, Ch'mn.

APPENDIX VII.

Your Committee on Query from Friendship Church beg leave to report that in all matters touching fellowship, the vote must be unanimous, and therefore a church has not the power to restore a member over a minority.

Respectfully submitted, T. J. EVERETTE, }
J. R. SAMPLE, } Com.
W. Z. LEA, }

QUERY. Has a Church the power to restore an excluded member, unless by unanimous consent of conference?

APPENDIX VIII.

In consideration of the appropriation made to the Wall street Baptist Church of Natchez, and feeling grateful to the Mississippi Association for the same, we deem it nothing but right to report to this body the work which has been done in the City of Natchez since your last meeting.

The Church at that time had received eleven members, and had commenced to feel encouraged. Since then there have been 31 baptized, 11 received by letter, and one approved for baptism. We have distributed about seventy dollars worth of tracts, papers and books; made 400 visits, and preached 125 sermons. Our Sunday School has increased from twenty to ninety-eight available members. We have an interesting church, and one which has determined to support her cause in the future, God being her helper. We have been sustaining one of our young men at Clinton as a licentiate, and hope to be able to do so still.

Thanking you for your appropriation, and hoping that we
will be able to render you assistance some day, we remain,
Respectfully,

C. M. GORDON,

Pastor Wall Street Baptist Church.

OCTOBER 9TH, 1873.

APPENDIX IX.

*W. Z. Lea, Treasurer, in account with the Mississippi
Baptist Association.*

	DR.	CR.
To amount received for associational purposes.	\$140 00	
To amount received for missionary purposes.	402 00	
By amount paid for minutes.		\$120 00
By amount paid Clerk for service.		20 00
By amount paid Natchez Church.		200 00
By amount turned over to General Association.		202 00
	\$542 00	\$542 00

Balance on hand, none.

W. Z. LEA, Treasurer.

APPENDIX X.

Your Committee on Finance submit the following report:

Amount for associational purposes sent up from the different churches	\$105 00
For missionary purposes.	5 00
Total.	\$110 00

APPENDIX XI.

Your committee beg leave to report the following general
letter of correspondence, to the different associations:

The Mississippi Baptist Association, to her sister associa-
tions in correspondence with her, greeting: We esteem it a
great privilege again to address your body by letter, and meet
with you by messengers. This time-honored custom we are
anxious to continue, and invite you to send your messengers
to meet with us. Our Association met with the Mount Zion
Church, Franklin county, October 8th, 1873, with a fuller dele-
gation from the churches than usual, and report a healthy cou-
dition of the churches generally, fostering the Sabbath school,
missionary, literary and ministerial educational interests, in
all of which we earnestly invite our brethren of sister associa-
tions, and the denomination, to co-operate with us, believing
as we do, that it is our solemn duty to aid our young ministers

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in every possible manner to be able rightly to comprehend the Word of God, to understand the fundamental doctrines of our denomination, and vindicate and sustain them with enlightened arguments drawn from scriptural truth. To do this they must be educated. Our next meeting will be held with East Fork Church, Amite county, on Saturday before the 2d Lord's day in October, 1874, at which time and place we hope to meet your messengers.

Fraternally yours,

GEO. F. WEBB, Chairman.

APPENDIX XII.

Your Committee on Ministerial Support having had the matter under consideration beg leave to report that nothing is more clear to our mind than that the blessings of the Gospel are not sufficiently appreciated by the world, and that its privileges are undervalued by too many who profess to have experienced its life-giving power, and who are cheered by the glorious hopes of life and immortality brought to light by it, and are often too unwilling to contribute of the means with which God has blessed them, for the support of the ministry. Nothing is more clearly taught in the Scripture than that they who preach the Gospel shall live by the Gospel, or should be supported by the churches to whom they minister. We are aware that this subject is one of great delicacy, often creating hard, if not unkind feelings between brethren, and not unfrequently disturbing the kind and cordial feelings of confidence that should always exist between pastor and people. At whose door the fault may lie we do not propose to determine. It may be with the church, or in part with the ministry. Could the hearts of all the members of our churches be filled with the love of God, and the ministry properly interested in working for the salvation of the souls of sinners, and more imbued with the spirit of Christ, most, if not all of the difficulty would be removed. As to the most feasible plan by which the means can be raised by the churches, it is no easy matter, after all that has been and may be suggested, and each church will probably act as deemed most advisable. We would, however, suggest the following as most likely to secure the object in view: Let each member of the church become responsible by subscription for such amount as they are able to pay der month, to

be paid at the first of each month, or quarterly, for the support of the pastor, and have one of the most active business members of the church act as treasurer, and act with the Deacons in collecting the amount so subscribed. If all members act in good faith, as is supposed they will, your committee can see no reason why the church cannot, in their individual capacity guarantee to the pastor such an amount, to be paid monthly or quarterly as may be agreed upon between them.—All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. PENDLETON, } Com'tee
JOS. BUCKLES. }

APPENDIX XIII.

Whereas, there exists dissatisfaction among the members of this body in regard to the time of holding its annual meetings, therefore,

Resolved, That hereafter the Mississippi Baptist Association shall meet on Saturday before the 2d Lord's Day in October next, and annually thereafter.

APPENDIX XIV.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due to our officers for the efficient and faithful duties performed by them.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due to the brethren of Mount Zion Church, and to the friends of this community, for their generous hospitality to the delegates of this body.

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Rules of Decorum.

1st. The delegates who are regularly chosen by the churches in our Union shall compose the Association.

2d. The delegates so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excluded, and dead since the last Association.

3d. The delegates thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the "Mississippi Baptist Association."

4th. This Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the members present.

5th. If a new church desire to be admitted into the Union, they shall petition by letter and delegates. If on examination found orthodox and orderly, they shall be received by the Association, manifested by the Moderator giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship.

6th. No church in the Association shall have a right to more than two delegates, until she shall exceed one hundred members. Then she shall be entitled to an additional delegate for every fifty.

7th. Every query sent to the Association by any church in the Union shall be read and put to vote by the Moderator, whether it shall be debated, and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated; provided, always, that those be first considered which affect the Union of the churches.

8th. Every motion made and seconded shall be taken up by our Association, except it be withdrawn by the person who made it.

9th. Only one person shall speak at once, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator.

10th. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted, except he depart from the subject, break the rules of decorum or cast reflection on a brother; in which case he shall be immediately called to order by the Moderator.

11th. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Association.

12th. No Brother shall be allowed to whisper or laugh during the conference, neither shall he absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

13th. The Moderator shall have the liberty of speaking on any question that may be debated, provided the chair may be previously filled, and have the privilege of voting only when the Association is equally divided.

14th. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over as often as the Association may deem expedient.

15th. We think it absolutely necessary to have an associational fund for defraying the expenses of the same, for the raising of which we think it the duty of each church in the Union to contribute such sums as they may deem proper, and send by the hands of their delegates to the Association, and the money thus contributed by the churches shall be deposited in the hands of a treasurer, by the Association appointed, who shall be accountable to the Association for all moneys by him received and paid out, according to direction of the same.

16th. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.

17th. These rules of decorum may be altered, changed or amended, from time to time, or any part of them, when a majority of the churches in the Association shall deem it necessary.

POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1st. It shall be the business of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches.

2d. To keep up a friendly correspondence, when convenient, with sister associations of the same faith and order.

3d. This Association shall have no power to Lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.

4th. It shall be the duty of this Association to give the churches the best advice in its power, in different matters, to inquire into any difficulty that may exist between sister churches, and remove them if possible.

5th. To admit any of the brethren in the ministry as assistants, but not to give them the privilege of voting.

6th. This Association shall have power to withdraw from any church in the Union which may be unsound in doctrine or immoral in practice, until reclaimed.

7th. To appoint any person or persons, by and with their consent, to transact any business which the Association may deem necessary or proper.

8th. The Association shall have power to adjourn to any time or place they may think proper.

9th. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

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